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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY **Rumania**
SUBJECT **Port Information: Constanta** 25X1A

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

2. Alphabetical Designators In connection with information reported herein, specific points of interest are noted on photograph of H0 Chart [] by the following alphabetical designators:

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- A. Outer Harbor Anchorage
- B. Inner Harbor Anchorage
- C. Berth
- D. Finnish Tanker (12 thousand tons)
- E. Shallow Depth Berth
- F. Medium Depth Berth
- G. Coastal Passenger Vessel Berth
- H. Channel (Depth 28')
- I. Port Administration Building
- J. Soviet Tanker (six thousand tons)
- K. East Breakwater
- L. New Quay

3. Dates of Call Source visited subject port [] aboard a motor tanker. Vessel approached harbor on a course of 303°T and anchored at [] outside harbor entrance at a point labeled designator A. Chart employed was British Admiralty Chart purchased in Istanbul immediately prior to this call and it was reliable for navigation use. Vessel radioed ETA in advance to agents in subject port, and vessel's agents at Bosphorus also wired same information. Source pointed out that this duplication was necessary to insure receipt of ETA by agents in subject port. On previous calls radio station in subject port has been weak and contact has been difficult.

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4. Cargo Vessel arrived in ballast and loaded approximately nine thousand tons light diesel oil for discharge in Gdynia, Poland, [] 25X1
5. Weather Average daytime temperature was 35°F and at night 27°F. Some ice was visible in harbor, carried by winds and current from along the coast to the north.
6. Pilotage Pilot boarded vessel at anchorage labeled designator A at [] 25X1
[] from a small motor launch manned by five armed guards. Quarantine doctor and a guard came aboard with pilot. Pilot spoke, in addition to his native tongue, Swedish and English. He was an older man who has been a pilot at subject port for many years and his services were satisfactory.
7. Boarding Inspection Vessel was underway from outer anchorage at [] 25X1
[] and reached inner harbor anchorage, labeled designator B, []
[] After a brief delay vessel lifted anchor and tied up at berth labeled designator C. Boarding party composed of 25 searchers with sidearms and two officers came aboard at [] and conducted a careful search. Radio, guns and ammunition, cameras, flares, line-throwing gun, and currency were sealed. Vessel carried no radar, and searchers showed interest in being absolutely certain that no radar equipment was left unsealed aboard vessel. 25X1
8. Berth and Cargo Operations Vessel's berth was one of three used for transfer of petroleum products along the south side of the New Petroleum Basin. Wharf was pre-World War II construction with stone surface and pipelines running beneath the surface. Vessel loaded cargo at rate of approximately 350 tons per hour. Vessel at adjoining berth labeled D was being loaded at the same time.
9. Hydrography Harbor and channels are silting, and the depth of water is now insufficient for large merchant tankers and freighters in the innermost extensions of the basins, especially alongside the wharves. Depth in the New Petroleum Basin at designator E and in the Petroleum Basin at designator J is insufficient for deep draft vessels. Depth is barely sufficient for large merchant vessels at designator D. Silting has also reduced usefulness of berth at designator G, where only shallow draft coastal passenger vessels can be berthed. Vessel fully loaded on departure was drawing 26' 1", and low water at harbor entrance was estimated to be no more than 25'. Vessel's screws raised mud and sand in its outbound passage through channel labeled designator H. East and northeast winds raise swells in and around harbor that may adversely affect navigation.
10. Surveillance Five sentries on the wharf armed with rifles maintained a 24-hour surveillance on vessel. Two sentries were stationed at the bow, two at the stern, and one at gangway to check passes of crew members going ashore. Port administration building is located at designator I.
11. Merchant Shipping Present A Finnish tanker of approximately 12 thousand tons was loading at berth labeled designator D. Vessel's name was a Norwegian-type; she was operating under time charter to the Polish government. A Soviet tanker of approximately six thousand tons was loading at berth labeled designator J. The usual practice of minimizing formalities and expediting loading of the Soviet tanker was observed.
12. Naval Vessels Present Seven Rumanian destroyer and escort-type naval vessels of approximately two thousand tons were tied up along the inner harbor (west) side of the East Breakwater labeled designator K. Two of the seven vessels had two stacks; all were painted dark blue. No armament, special equipment, or other identifying features were noted. No aircraft were sighted while vessel was in port or underway in the Black Sea.
13. Liberty Ashore One-third of the crew was allowed ashore. Passes were issued to crew members by the port authorities to be shown to gangway sentry upon going ashore and returning to vessel. Crew members found prices very high on

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goods ashore. Lack of street and interior lighting in building suggested a shortage of electric power in the city.

14. Harbor Improvements North and South sides of the New Quay, labeled designator L, designed as berths for transfer of petroleum products did not appear to be operational.

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[Comment] As reported herein and in a previous report, Soviet tankers are accorded preferential treatment in the expeditious loading of cargo and discharge of formalities. The inner harbor (west) side of the East Breakwater, labeled designator K, is reserved for naval craft as confirmed herein and reported in previous reports. It is noted that five sentries were used in surveillance on vessel reported herein during [] while only one sentry was used for surveillance according to information received in [] which might tend to indicate a relaxation of security procedures in subject port.

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[On file in CIA Library is photograph of NO Chart [] with appropriate alphabetical designators.]

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